

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-10, and 12-19 have been canceled from this application without prejudice to Applicants' right to pursue these claims.

Claim 2 and 11 were previously canceled from this application and remained canceled without prejudice to Applicants' right to pursue these claims.

Claim 20 has been amended so that the grip identifier, together with the interchangeable patch, is for a traditional pint beverage container. The amendment is fully supported in the application as filed and does not contain new matter. Prior art does not recite such an invention for a traditional pint glass. This claim is not obvious over prior art. The prior art described by Hall (U.S. Patent Application 2005/0103795 A1) is an insulating sleeve for a beverage container, including a pint glass. The prior art described by Gladman (U.S. Patent No. 5,381,922) is a carrier for beverages with a means of attaching a separate object, such as a clip. No prior art teaches the use of a means of attaching a separate object to a holder/insulating sleeve designed for a pint glass. Additionally, no prior art teaches the interchangeable patch or the desire to identify one's glass from a group of glasses. The prior art merely teaches attaching a clip as a means of further attaching the beverage container to a fixed object. The combination of the grip holder, sized for a traditional pint glass, with a means of attaching a separate object together with that object being an interchangeable patch for identification purposes is a novel invention, which is not obvious over prior art references.

The prior art does not expressly provide for a suggestion or a motivation to combine the references. Additionally, there is not an implied motivation to combine the references. A person of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to make the invention of claim

20. The prior art does not provide the motivation to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the references and the prior art does not suggest the need to distinguish one's glass when placed near other glasses, thus it does not suggest the desirability of making the claimed combination.

As previously argued in our response dated September 27, 2005, the prior art described by Chun (U.S. Patent No. 6,286,798) is a beverage container holder designed to assist wheelchair-bound persons or to be used to attach a beverage to a stable object. Conversely, the glass grip holder of the present invention is designed to assist in carrying a beverage container and in identifying one's beverage container. For support, the Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to paragraphs [0001] and [0002] of the specification as filed. Additionally, there has been a long felt need for such an invention designed to identify a particular pint glass. Often groups of people drink from pint glasses in bars or in private settings. These glasses are usually indistinguishable. The lack of a motivation or a suggestion to combine prior art references together with the long felt but unsolved need for a grip identifier for a pint glass shows that the invention of claim number 20, as amended is not obvious over prior art. Therefore claim number 20 should now be in allowable form.

Claims 21-27 remain in this application. These claims are dependent on claim 20, which has been amended.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the amendments and remarks made herein overcome and/or obviate the Examiner's rejection and render the application in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, entry of these amendments and remarks, withdrawal of the rejections and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants at the below-indicated telephone number if he or she believes it would advance prosecution of the application. An allowance is earnestly sought.

Respectfully Submitted,

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